

Docket No.: 050395-0373

**PATENT****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of : Customer Number: 20277  
Masatada NUMANO, et al. : Confirmation Number: 7856  
Application No.: 10/579,442 : Group Art Unit: 1793  
Filed: May 15, 2006 : Examiner: Kevin P. Kerns  
For: CASTING NOZZLE

**FAX RECEIVED**  
**DEC 23 2009**  
**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). No certification or fee is required.

Each Japanese reference was cited in a corresponding Japanese application Office Action and its relevance discussed therein. A copy of the Japanese Office Action, together with an English language version thereof, is attached for the Examiner's information.

**10/579,442**

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper,  
including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to  
such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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